

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6-9, 14, 15 and 18-21 are amended. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended by Examiner Goff to Applicants' representative during the personal interview held August 22, 2006, are gratefully appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

Applicants gratefully appreciate the indication that claim 6 is allowable.

The Office Action rejects claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Wolcott (U.S. Patent No. 4,859,378); claims 1-5 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Dietl et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,519,425) in view of Wolcott; and claims 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Dietl, Wolcott and further in view of Ikegami et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,460,965). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

As agreed during the personal interview, none of the applied references alone or in combination, disclose or suggest a method for joining a fluid container and a fluid injector, and associated fluid container, that includes arranging a fluid container including at least one heat stake, a fluid ejector and a substrate in order, the substrate including at least one aperture and at least a groove disposed in the vicinity of the at least one aperture, as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claims 14 and 15.

For at least these reasons, independent claims 1, 14 and 15, and their dependent claims, are patentable over a combination of the applied references. Thus, withdrawal of the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-21 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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